and the CWC in the context of loss of foodgrains in their godowns;

(b) if so, what are the details of the losses from Janaury, 1983 to January, 1985; and

(e) what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: (a) The Government have been constantly monitoring and reviewing performance of the Food Corporation of India and the Central Warehousing Corporation with a view to improving their efficiency as also reducing the losses of foodgrains in storage or in transit.

Ob) The total storage lo.is in food-grains suffered by Food Corporation of India during the years 1982-83 and 1983-84 was 0.65% and 0.59 per cent of the quantities issued/transferred out. The loss in storage of foodgrains in the various warehouses run by CWC was 0.6 per cent in 1982-83 and 0.7 per cent in 1983-84. The accounts for the remaining periods have not been finalised so far.

(c) The storage losses of foodgrains arise out of various factors such as vagaries of weather, moisture loss and deterioration in quality on ac count of long storage etc.

State Labour Ministers' Conference

*272. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY;
DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what are the subjects discussed at the State Labour Ministers' Conference held in Delhi on May, 11, 1985 and what is the outcome thereof;

(b) whether the question of prolonged litigation in industrial disputes was discussed;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being considered to speed up the disposal of pending industrial disputes in labour courts/ industrial tribunals throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH); (a) to (d) The items of agenda and the summary of im portant suggestions/conclusions of the 35th Session of the Labour Ministers' Conference held on May 11, 1985 are given in the Annexure. [See Appen dix CXXXV, Annexure No. 40.] The question of delay in the adjudication of labour cases was discussed and the Conference suggested establishment of separate bench of High Courts and high-powered Tribunals and steps for the promotion of voluntary arbitra tion. The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 as amended by the Industrial Disputes (Amendment Act, 1982 provides for time-bound dispo- sal of industrial disputes. The Industrial Disputes (Central) Rules, 1947 have also been amended to provide time-frame for different stages for disposal of disputes. The normal workload for the setting up of Labour Courts/Industrial Tribunals recommended by the Working Group on Industrial Relations set up in connection with preparation of the Seventh Five Year Plan, has been communi- cated to the State Governments/Union Territories. Norms for disposal of disputes have been prescribed and progress is being monitored.

Operation flood

*273. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD; Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a)' what is the amount utilised, State-wise under Operation Flood I and II separately up to 1984-85 and the proposed allocations, year-wise,